RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF MALLING

ANNUAL REPORT

on the

Health of the Malling District for the year 1964

By

The Medical Officer of Health

Dr. F. H. M. DUMMER

and

Chief Public Health Inspector

H. C. COLDRICK

STEDMAN & CO., (1948) LTD., WEST MALLING

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DEPUTY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:

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CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:

H. C. Coldrick, M.A.P.H.I.,

DEPUTY CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:

E. L. Allsop, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.,

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS:

G.J.H. Roscow, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.,

R.M. Cripps, M.A.P.H.I., (Public Cleansing)

B. Gale, (Technical Assistant, Commenced 20.10.64.)

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Council Offices,
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(West Malling 3334).

8th June, 1965

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my eighth Annual Report on the health of the Rural District of Malling.

Four of the features which are generally taken as an indication of the health of a district were, in 1964, highly satisfactory from the point of view of Malling Rural District. The birth rate was above that of England and Wales; the Infantile Mortality Rate was below the national figure; there were no maternal deaths; and the general Death Rate was well below that of the country as a whole. Those figures indicate that the general health of the Rural District of Malling is favourable on those highly critical indices.

When we turn to the question of cancer deaths I am pleased to report that there has been a substantial drop in this figure, being 78 in 1964 compared with 99 in 1963. The main decrease in this figure is related to cancer of the stomach and cancer of the breast and uterus, all of which diminished considerably during the year. It is, however, a sobering fact to realise that cancer of the lung and bronchus has increased from 26 deaths in 1963 to 29 in 1964.

The mortality of cancer as far as age groups are concerned retains the same pattern, i.e. that the vast majority of deaths occur in the older age groups: in fact, in 1964 there were no cancer deaths up to the age group of 35 - 44 years. This year there were no deaths from leukaemia which is taken - although a form of cancer - under a different heading.

When you read the details of the breakdown of infant mortality later in this report, you will note that eight of the eighteen deaths of children under twelve months were due to causes considered to be unavoidable. The majority of those cases come under the heading of congenital malformations and diseases of the system generally of such a gross degree that the expectation of life is reduced to nil. The inference behind those statistics is that the margin for improvement in the infantile death rate is relatively small, and we have been for several years approaching a stage where the national figures will begin to show a very moderate decline as the years go on, although it is by no means impossible that a reduction of possibly 25 per cent will be achieved in the next decade.

When the statistics of Malling Rural District are considered against those of the surrounding area and County and country the extraordinarily low Death Rate is the outstanding feature, and although you will see that there is a very substantial unfavourable difference in the tuberculosis death rate of Malling compared with any of the other areas, this is largely because of the concentration of cases at Preston Hall.

In the field of infectious diseases there were no outstanding features in 1964, apart from the unusual case of diphtheria which arose in a hospital, and a case of paratyphoid fever which did not give rise to an outbreak. In general 1964 was a good year for the incidence of infectious diseases and the single disease giving rise to a high figure was measles, which did not create a public health problem.

In the pages which follow on Mr. Coldrick's account of the environmental hygiene circumstances of the District, you will appreciate the very considerable scope which this report includes.

One of the major aspects of the Report is the inauguration of the Paper Sack Method of refuse collection which up to date has been highly successful and no doubt when applied throughout the whole District will give rise to improvements, not only in the working conditions of the personnel employed, but in the appreciation of the public in handling refuse material.

Already the trial scheme which embraces 1,200 houses has been such a success that it has been extended to the next 7,000 in the second phase of the scheme and thereafter to the remainder of the District. It is easy to leave the subject at that, but I would like to record that this has involved Mr. Coldrick and the Health Department in a considerable amount of planning, and the operation has only been so successful because of the forethought which has gone into the details.

Throughout the Report you will see the close surveillance which is kept on all aspects of the public health, not least of which is the supervision of food premises and catering establishments. Since the typhoid epidemic in Aberdeen last year there has been a closer surveillance on this aspect of the work and no doubt this has resulted in dividends to the public health, although it is extremely difficult to assess in the negative way in which most of our work has to be estimated.

Before closing this letter I should like to record my thanks to Mr. Coldrick, the Chief Public Health Inspector, and the members of the Inspectorate, and also to all the Senior Officers of the Council whose help has been so considerable.

During the year the Public Health Committee and the Council have given me all support, and I am grateful for interest and co-operation shown.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

F. H. M. DUMMER

Medical Officer of Health.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	515	453	968
Illegitimate	27	29	56
Total	542	482	1,024
Live birth rate per 1,000 population - crude			22.84
corrected			21.92

	Male	Female	Total
Still Births	16	5	21
Still birth rate per 1,000 live and still births			20.09
Total live and still births	558	487	1,045

	Male	Female	Total
Infant Deaths	11	7	18

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	..	17.57
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	..	16.52
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	..	35.70
Neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births)	..	13.67
Early neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	..	12.69
Perinatal mortality rate (deaths under 1 week and still births combined per 1,000 total live and still births)	..	32.53
Maternal mortality (including abortion)		NIL
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 total live and still births	..	NIL

	Male	Female	Total
Deaths	225	162	387
Death rate per 1,000 population - crude			8.63
corrected			9.66
Death rate for England and Wales			11.3

Comparative table showing birth rate, death rate,

and infant mortality rate.

MALLING R.D.C.	Per 1,000 estimated mid year Home Population				Per 1,000 total live and still	Per 1,000 live births
	Live Birth Rate		Death Rate		Still Birth Rate	Death rate of infants under 1 year of age
	Crude Rate	Adjusted Rate	Crude Rate	Adjusted Rate		
1960	18.00	18.92	10.61	10.92	32.30	23.22
1961	18.67	19.60	10.68	10.89	11.85	21.33
1962	20.83	20.83	9.98	10.97	17.79	19.25
1963	21.13	20.28	12.05	13.49	14.95	18.43
1964	22.84	21.92	8.63	9.66	20.09	17.57
England & Wales 1964	18.4		11.3		16.3 (P)	20.0

(P) - Provisional Rate

The birth rate for your district has reached the highest level for several years and is substantially above that for England and Wales. The death rate is at a record low level and is significantly below the national average.

Another pleasing aspect of the above comparative table is that the infantile mortality rate also is below that of England and Wales.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

PARISH	Scarlet fever	Whooping cough	Measles	Meningitis	Diphtheria	Pneumonia	Encephalitis	Tuberculosis: Pulmonary	Tuberculosis: Non-pulmonary	Dysentery	Paratyphoid fever	Food Poisoning	Erysipelas	Puerperal pyrexia	Ophthalmia neonatorum	TOTALS
Addington	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Aylesford	1	4	21	-	-	-	-	2	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	36
Birling	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Borough Green	-	2	15	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19
Burham	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Ditton	1	1	87	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	91
Ightham	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	3
Leybourne	1	-	8	-	1	-	-	9	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	22
E. Malling	3	9	27	1	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	45
W. Malling	2	4	26	-	-	3	-	-	-	4	-	-	1	-	-	40
Mereworth	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Offham	-	-	6	-	-	1	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	12
E. Peckham	-	4	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	7
W. Peckham	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Platt	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Plaxtol	1	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Ryarsh	3	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	8
Shipbourne	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Snodland	5	8	15	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31
Stansted	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Trottiscliffe	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wateringbury	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	5
Wouldham	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wrotham	-	4	7	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15
TOTALS	18	40	246	1	1	7	2	20	2	19	1	1	4	1	-	363

The main feature of the above table is the rather surprising continuance of the incidence of measles in a year in which we expected the rate to fall substantially below the figure given in the table. Although it is only a third of the 1963 total, one would not have expected so many cases in 1964.

The number of cases of dysentery has fallen considerably and this year did not give rise to any features grossly affecting public health.

This year there was one case of diphtheria which arose in a hospital, and one case of paratyphoid which gave rise to no secondary cases.

The following table relates to the incidence of Notifiable Diseases according to disease, sex and age groups

DISEASE	AGE GROUPS IN YEARS																			
	0 - 1		1 - 2		3 - 4		5 - 9		10 - 14		15 - 24		25 - 44		45 - 64		65 & over		TOTAL	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Scarlet fever	-	-	-	2	2	-	3	9	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	11
Whooping cough	2	4	5	3	2	4	9	6	1	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	19	21
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	6	3	34	25	34	32	48	54	6	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	129	118
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Dysentery	1	-	3	1	1	2	6	1	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	14	5
Meningococcal infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	1	2	-	3	4
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
Enteric or typhoid fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid fevers	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	-	1	3
Puerperal pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Ophthalmia neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	9	7	42	31	39	38	66	71	10	8	4	3	2	4	1	4	3	-	176	166

TUBERCULOSIS

The table set out below records in age groups the new cases recorded in the register during the year, together with the number of deaths which occurred.

AGE GROUPS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-respiratory		Respiratory		Non-respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0 - 5	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 14	-	2	-	-	1	-	-	-
15 - 24	3	2	1	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 44	4	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
45 - 64	4	1	1	-	2	1	-	-
65 & over	2	1	-	-	4	-	-	-
Age unknown	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	13	7	2	-	9	1	-	-
	20		2		10		-	

I am indebted to Dr. D.L. Pugh the Chest Physician, for the following details of the numbers of contacts of known cases of tuberculosis examined during the year, and the number found to be suffering from tuberculosis. These figures relate to the area of the Chest Clinic which coincides with the area of the four authorities, Maidstone Borough, Maidstone R.D., Hollingbourn R.D., and Malling R.D.

(a) Number of contacts seen during 1964 of newly notified cases of tuberculosis 282

(b) Number of contacts examined during 1964 of cases notified prior to 1964 712

(c) Number of contacts in (a) found to be suffering from pulmonary or non-pulmonary tuberculosis 5

(d) Number of contacts in (b) found to be suffering from pulmonary or non-pulmonary tuberculosis .. .. Nil

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The number of new cases of tuberculosis rose in 1964 to 20 from the previous total of 15. The deaths, however, fell from 12 to 10.

You will see, too, from the above account the very substantial volume of work which is undertaken in the examination of contacts.

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION, 1964

The following table shows the poliomyelitis vaccination figures for 1964, based on the return submitted to the Ministry of Health.

Year	3rd and 4th Dose (Salk and Oral)	3 Orals (Complete Course)
1964	-	196
1963	5	218
1962	3	80
1961	1	33
1949 - 1960	546	58
1933 - 1948	4	26
Others	1	11
TOTALS	560	622

During the year 1,182 people completed a course of protection against poliomyelitis, bringing the total since the inception of the scheme up to 16,807.

By now, of course, up to the age of 40, the only figures which we should be receiving are those of fourth doses, i.e., people who are already protected in the three dose course, and those children too young to have completed the full oral course. However, I suppose it is too much to expect 100 per cent response from the public, although this vaccine is of the easiest type to administer and has no untoward side effects.

WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION, 1964.

The following table shows the whooping cough immunisation figures for 1964, based on the returns submitted to the Ministry of Health.

Year of Birth	Whooping cough immunisation (Singly or in combination)
	Primary
1964	432
1963	403
1962	21
1961	13
1960	6
1955 - 1959	3
1950 - 1954	2
TOTAL	880

Once again there has been an increase in the number of children immunised, this year the figure stands at 880 as against 723 in 1963. This is a very encouraging trend and one which I hope will continue as whooping cough in the young can still be a very serious disease.

SMALLPOX VACCINATION, 1964.

PRIMARY VACCINATION 1 YEAR	RE-VACCINATION SCHOOL AGE BUT UNDER 8 YEARS
512	2

The records of vaccinations supplied now by the County Medical Officer are only those which apply to primary vaccinations carried out under the County Council's own arrangements, and to re-vaccination between the ages of 5 and 8 years.

I am therefore not in a position to know the total numbers in either category. The statistics although they are submitted to you are not, in my opinion, of much value, but are presented to you merely because they are a return which is sent to me by the County Medical Officer.

I would, however, stress that it is of value to have infants vaccinated against smallpox, and particularly for people who are going abroad to maintain their state of protection by re-vaccination at intervals of three years.

This year the number of primary vaccinations has risen in twelve months from 232 to 512.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION, 1964.

The following table shows the diphtheria immunisation figures for 1964, based on the return submitted to the Ministry of Health.

Year of Birth	Diphtheria Immunisation (Singly or in combination)	
	Primary	Reinforcing
1964	440	-
1963	409	11
1962	21	264
1961	17	112
1960	8	39
1955 - 1959	12	401
1950 - 1954	4	8
TOTALS	911	835

Once again there has been a substantial increase in the number of immunisations of both primary and the reinforcing type. The total for 1964 is 1,746 compared with 1,399 for 1963.

I am particularly glad to report this trend as cases of diphtheria which arise from time to time in this country are apt to be of a very virulent nature, and continuous immunisation is the only method of warding off this danger.

CANCER

Below is an analysis of the deaths from malignant disease according to age groups.

Age Groups	Male	Female
0 - 1 year	-	-
1 - 4 years	-	-
5 - 14 "	-	-
15 - 24 "	-	-
25 - 34 "	-	-
35 - 44 "	3	-
45 - 54 "	6	6
55 - 64 "	21	5
65 - 74 "	10	13
75 years & over	6	8
TOTALS	46	32

Site	Male	Female	Total
Cancer of stomach	3	3	6
Cancer of lung, bronchus	25	4	29
Cancer of breast	-	6	6
Cancer of uterus	-	1	1
Other sites	18	18	36
TOTALS	46	32	78

This year there has been a substantial drop in the number of cancer deaths, being 78 in 1964 compared with 99 in 1963.

The interesting point in the breakdown of these figures is that the number of cases of cancer of the lung and bronchus has actually risen in the year from 26 in 1963 to 29 in 1964. The figures in all other individual sites have fallen.

INFANTILE MORTALITY

	Under 1 week	1 - 2 weeks	2 - 3 weeks	3 - 4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 3 months	3 - 6 months	7 - 12 months	Total deaths under 1 year
Asphyxia neonatorum	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Atelectasis	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Gastroenteritis	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1
Congenital heart disease	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Congenital malformations	4	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	4
Encephalomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Haemolytic disease	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Meningitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Prematurity	3	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	3
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	2
Respiratory distress syndrome	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Respiratory failure	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
TOTALS	13	-	-	1	14	2	-	2	18

The infant mortality rate fell slightly in 1964, and still remains below the average for England and Wales.

In the analysis of deaths given above at least 8 of the 18 deaths, and possibly one or two more, were entirely unavoidable. This particularly applies to those cases of congenital malformations where the infant died in the first week or two of life.

The figure for infant deaths in your district has remained fairly static for some time and it is now an index which one expects to fall very substantially as a natural trend.

Birth-rates, Death-rates and Analysis of Mortality in the year, 1964

Area	Rate per 1,000 population	Annual Death-rate per 1,000 population				Rate per 1,000	
						Live Births	Related Births
	Live Births	All causes	Tuberculosis	Cancer of lung	Other cancer	Total Deaths under 1 year	Still Births
ngland & Wales	18.4 (P)	11.3	.04	.53	1.67	20.0	16.3 (P)
ollingbourn R.D.	21.52	11.22	-	.60	1.92	14.08	13.88
aidstone R.D.	22.20	12.81	.13	.65	1.53	19.76	11.71
alling R.D.	21.92	9.66	.22	.64	1.09	17.57	20.09
aidstone Borough	18.75	10.78	.03	.38	1.55	19.19	17.15
unty of Kent	17.86	11.49	.04	.57	1.70	19.38	15.95

CAUSES OF DEATHS, 1964

Cause		Male	Female
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	9	1
2.	Tuberculosis, other	-	-
3.	Syphilitic disease	1	-
4.	Diphtheria	-	-
5.	Whooping cough	-	-
6.	Meningococcal infections	-	-
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	-	-
8.	Measles	-	-
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	3
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	3
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	25	4
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	6
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	1
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	18	18
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-
16.	Diabetes	3	2
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	18	16
18.	Coronary disease, angina	36	26
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	6	4
20.	Other heart disease	21	28
21.	Other circulatory disease	5	6
22.	Influenza	4	1
23.	Pneumonia	11	5
24.	Bronchitis	12	-
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	4	2
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3	-
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	2	3
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	2	2
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-
31.	Congenital malformations	4	1
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	29	24
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	2	1
34.	All other accidents	4	1
35.	Suicide	1	4
36.	Homicide and operations of war	-	-
		225	162

Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
High Street,
WEST MALLING.

8th June, 1965

To the Chairman and Members of the Rural District Council of Malling.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Cross and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my seventeenth Annual Report on the environmental circumstances existing in the Rural District for the year ended 31st December, 1964.

The commencement of Mr. B. Gale as Technical Assistant on 20th October assisted in the smooth running of the Department and relieved the District Inspectors of some of the routine work.

All aspects of environmental hygiene and sanitation received attention and some further progress, albeit small, was made on the Slum Clearance programme. A lot of time was spent on the control of food and drink a subject which gained considerable publicity with the typhoid outbreak at Aberdeen. Caravans and particularly those used by gypsies and other itinerants received close attention.

The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963 came fully into force during the year and gave rise to a considerable amount of additional work for the Department. For the first time the welfare of the black coated worker became the prerogative of the Council. All aspects of welfare relating to workers in shops and offices, including such things as air space, lighting, sanitary and washing facilities, guarding of machinery, and the investigation of accidents are now dealt with by your Inspectors.

During the year, a pilot scheme of paper sack refuse collection was initiated. This scheme took in some 1,200 houses in three areas, aimed to give experience with the different types of development in the district. At the year's end experience proved the scheme to be successful. It is hoped to extend the area so served in the forthcoming year and eventually to cover the whole District within the next 2 years.

The East Peckham Sewerage Scheme was completed by the middle of the year and the Wateringbury and Teston Sewage Works and Sewerage Scheme commenced in the latter part of 1964. The cesspool emptying service remained acute and, with the continued development taking place throughout the District, is likely to remain so until further sewerage schemes at present envisaged are completed. Ministerial approval in outline was received during the year for the re-sewering of the Parish of Snodland and to a trunk valley sewer being laid from the western end of the rural district to the new Snodland works. This sewer is aimed at providing main drainage facilities for several villages en route. Only when this ambitious scheme is completed will the cesspool emptying position be eased.

HOUSING

Some progress was made on the Second Five Year Slum Clearance Programme, but, because of a shortage of alternative Council accommodation not to the extent that had been hoped. However 12 representations were made, resulting in 11 Closing Orders and 1 Demolition Order. A further Closing Order was made as a result of a representation made during 1963. 3 houses the subject of Closing Orders made in previous years were made fit for human habitation and the orders rescinded.

20 houses were demolished during the year, some of which were the subject of Closing Orders made in previous years. A total of 12 families comprising 30 persons were rehoused by the Council from unfit houses. The Council's continued support in allocating a proportion of houses for rehousing the persons displaced has ensured the success of the Slum Clearance programme to date.

1,485 visits of inspection were made under this heading during the year and it was necessary to serve 58 informal and 4 statutory notices requiring house repairs. One Owner was prosecuted for failing to comply with a statutory notice. A nuisance order was made and the owner ordered to pay costs. As a result of the Magistrates Order the work required was carried out satisfactorily. The table following this section of the report sets out in detail a summary of the repairs effected. The following shows the number of houses rendered fit during the year.

Houses made fit as a result of informal action by Local Authority	...	36
Houses made fit as a result of formal action by the Local Authority	...	4

During the year, only 1 application for a Certificate of Disrepair under the Rent Act, 1957 was received, resulting in an undertaking by the landlord to carry out the necessary repair work.

Each year since the Act came into force there has been a decrease in the number of applications received and it is evident as I have previously noted that as far as this District is concerned, the Act has failed to prevent the deterioration of the smaller Cottage property.

Applications for Improvement Grants are dealt with by the Council's Engineer and Surveyor, Mr. C. Brown, who has supplied the following information:-

Discretionary Grants

Number of schemes submitted	84	
Number of schemes approved	84	
Total cost of such improvements or conversions		£65,001
Total cost of grants made		£26,993

Standard Grants

Number of applications	61	
Number of applications approved	61	
Total cost of grants made		£ 8,205

There was an increase of 11 applications submitted for discretionary grants compared with 1963 and the cost of such grants increased by £5,192. The number of Standard Grants were 5 less than the previous year, but the amount paid by way of grant rose by £620.

The number of new dwellings erected in the Rural District during 1964 was as follows:-

By Local Authority	50
By Private Enterprise	871
TOTAL	921

The following table sets out the sanitary works effected to existing premises during the year under review:-

Water closets provided	...	6
Water closets repaired	...	30
Wash basins provided/renewed/cleansed	...	5
Sinks provided/renewed	...	2
Water heaters provided	...	5
Baths provided	...	2
Cesspools provided/renewed	...	6
Pail closets converted	...	1
Inspection chambers provided/renewed/repaired	...	3
Gullies repaired/renewed	...	1
Drains laid/altered/repaired	...	7
Choked drains cleansed	...	12
Chemical closets provided/renewed	...	1
Chimney-stacks repaired/renewed	...	7
Roofs repaired	...	32
R.W. gutters and pipes repaired/renewed	...	17
External walls repaired	...	25
Internal walls and ceilings repaired	...	39
Floors and staircases repaired	...	21
Doors and windows repaired/renewed	...	36
Grates and ranges repaired/renewed	...	6
Dampness remedied	...	17
Dustbins provided	...	8
Accumulations removed	...	3
Yard paving repaired	...	2
Food shops cleansed/redecorated/etc.	...	2
Number of informal notices served during 1964	...	58
Number of formal notices served during 1964	...	4
Number of complaints received during 1964	...	544

HOP PICKING

As a result of the warmer drier summer, hop picking commenced earlier than usual in the third week of August and ended towards the end of September. An estimated total of 1,750 persons were housed in 17 camps, a decrease of 302 on the previous year. No additional machines were brought into use during the year under review but it is anticipated that further picking machines will be installed in the future. Many pickers provided their own accommodation by way of Caravans and tents.

28 visits of inspection were made to ensure compliance with the Council's byelaws, particular attention being paid to mobile food shops, temporary shops and a tented cafe at one camp.

Conditions in general were satisfactory, farmers have been co-operative and huts have not been occupied after 30th November as required by the byelaw.

WATER SUPPLIES

The Mid Kent Water Company continued to supply water to the majority of premises in the district, the remainder being supplied by the mains of the Maidstone Water Works Company, the Sevenoaks and Tonbridge Water Company and the Medway Water Board. In addition a small number of premises receive piped supplies from private sources.

During the year under review water mains were laid to serve new development and to replace existing mains. No mains were laid for the benefit of existing houses not hitherto served by a public water supply.

At the 31st December, 1964 98.76% of the houses within the district were receiving a supply of piped water from statutory undertakings and a further 0.99% from private sources of supply, giving a total of 99.75% of the houses within the district receiving a piped supply.

SAMPLES

None of the supplies are liable to plumbo-solvent action and samples confirm the absence of lead contamination, precautions against these contaminations have not been necessary. None of the supplies are subjected to fluoridation and in all cases the natural content is under 0.1 parts per million.

All supplies have been sampled regularly during the year, particular attention again being paid to the untreated private supplies. The following table gives details of samples taken during the year:-

Type of Water	Bacteriological Examination			Chemical Examination		
	No. of Samples	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	No. of Samples	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Statutory Supply Undertakings	12	12	-	1	1	-
Private Sources piped to dwellings	25	21	4	-	-	-
Other private sources	2	2	-	-	-	-

3 of the 4 unsatisfactory samples were taken from untreated water of the Tottington Spring Supply. Bacteriological filters are provided at houses on this supply, and samples taken after filtration proved satisfactory.

The other unsatisfactory sample was taken from the Hamptons private supply. Repeat samples proved satisfactory. There is now a mains supply available to the area and 18 of the 25 properties hitherto on the private supply were connected to the mains by the years end.

The Water Companies carry out regular chemical and bacteriological examination of their supplies and results are consistently satisfactory.

During 1964, the Mid Kent Water Company took 83 bacteriological and 16 chemical samples of the Trosley water, 53 bacteriological and 17 chemical from the Halling water and 19 bacteriological and 9 chemical of the Ryarsh supply. In addition, 74 samples were taken from storage reservoirs supplied from Halling and Trosley.

The following table gives the average chemical analysis of the waters during the year:-

	Trosley Pumping Station	Halling Pumping Station	Ryarsh Pumping Station
		Parts per million	
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.00	0.00	0.001
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.018	0.00	0.006
Nitrate Nitrogen	1.6	3.2	Absent
Nitrite Nitrogen	Absent	Absent	Absent
Oxygen Absorbed (3 hrs. at 27°C)	0.00	0.00	0.04
Alkalinity (as CaCo 3)	157	190	145
Hardness (as CaCo 3) Total	219	207	190
Carbonate	157	190	145
Non-Carbonate	62	17	45
Total solids (dried at 180°C)	285	300	270
p H	7.7	7.6	7.0
Free CO2	8	21	50
Chloride	21	19	21
Sulphate	-	-	-
Calcium	204	198	176
Magnesium	15	9	14
Iron	Absent	0.28	1.2
Manganese	Absent	Absent	0.25
Silica	-	-	-
Phosphate	Absent	0.01	Absent
Residual Chlorine	NIL	NIL	NIL

The following table shows the number of dwelling houses in each parish; those supplied with water from public and private mains, and those known to be without a laid-on water supply. In the latter case, water is obtained from springs and wells or by the storage of rainwater in under-ground tanks.

Parish	No. of dwelling houses	Estimated population	No. of houses with piped supply		No. of houses known to be without laid on supply
			Public Mains	Private Sources	
Addington	220	626	220	-	-
Aylesford	2,031	6,046	2,009	13	9
Birling	457	1,315	454	-	3
Borough Green	1,097	3,269	1,097	-	-
Burham	612	1,725	612	-	-
Ditton	1,048	3,070	1,048	-	-
Ightham	605	1,802	605	-	-
Leybourne	189	2,074	189	-	-
East Malling & Larkfield	1,956	5,641	1,956	-	-
West Malling	890	2,444	888	-	2
Mereworth	241	901	241	-	-
Offham	262	796	262	-	-
East Peckham	802	2,240	790	-	12
West Peckham	108	333	103	4	1
Platt	459	1,323	458	-	1
Plaxtol	350	966	338	9	3
Ryarsh	250	748	250	-	-
Shipbourne	161	511	40	121	-
Snodland	1,596	4,608	1,592	-	4
Stansted	168	527	168	-	-
Trottiscliffe	173	497	173	-	-
Wateringbury	372	1,085	372	-	-
Wouldham	262	819	262	-	-
Wrotham	484	1,464	484	-	-
TOTALS	14,793	44,830	14,611	147	35

WATER MAINS:

During the year under review, 13,559 yards of mains were laid in the District as follows :-

Parish	Yards	Size	Water Company
Aylesford	431	3"	Mid Kent Water Company
"	325	4"	Medway Water Board
Borough Green	347	4"	Mid Kent Water Company
Burham	168	3"	" " " "
Ditton	246	3"	" " " "
"	590	4"	" " " "
East Malling & Larkfield	1,073 1,451	3" 4"	" " " " " " " "
East Peckham	382	3"	" " " "
Ightham	1,650	4"	" " " "
Mereworth	93	3"	" " " "
Platt	179	3"	" " " "
Plaxtol	1,130	4"	" " " "
Stansted	620	3"	" " " "
Wateringbury	84	3"	" " " "
West Peckham	12	3"	" " " "
" "	2,840	4"	" " " "
Wrotham	1,938	3"	" " " "

These new mains were laid to serve new development and to replace existing mains with larger diameter pipes. None of the mains were laid to serve premises not hitherto served by a public water supply.

DELIVERY OF WATER

The warmer drier summer of 1964 was reflected in the amount of water that had to be delivered to houses in the Holly Hill Area of Birling and Snodland dependent on stored rain fall, when 2,400 gallons were delivered compared with 1,200 in 1963. The position regarding the provision of a piped water supply to these properties and to the Bells Farm Area of East Peckham remains unchanged, due to the prohibitive cost involved.

METEOROLOGY

The following data concerning meteorology for 1964 (with comparative figures for the four previous years) has been supplied by the Meteorological Officer of the East Malling Research Station:-

Month	Temperature in Screen (°F)				Rainfall (ins)				Sunshine	Average Barometer (inches)
	Mean Maximum	Mean Minimum	Highest	Lowest	Total	35 year's average	Heaviest Rainfall in any one day	No. days rain (0.01 & over)	Total hours of sunshine	
January	41.6	31.6	52	14	1.44	2.46	0.65	12	33.8	30.33
February	45.0	35.1	56	21	1.29	1.95	0.28	13	55.4	29.95
March	44.4	35.3	57	23	3.33	1.57	1.39	17	68.3	29.87
April	54.9	40.0	67	28	3.15	1.90	0.79	19	138.7	29.58
May	66.0	47.1	77	36	1.96	1.93	0.35	15	211.9	29.99
June	66.7	49.4	79	39	4.95	1.63	1.19	16	176.2	29.94
July	72.8	53.6	84	44	0.66	2.25	0.25	8	205.3	30.01
August	71.4	52.0	85	39	1.26	2.31	0.48	9	207.3	29.94
September	69.5	47.2	81	39	0.50	2.18	0.22	8	220.3	30.00
October	56.1	39.1	70	28	2.18	2.85	0.77	14	132.4	29.92
November	51.8	39.9	59	23	2.23	3.18	0.49	13	55.0	30.10
December	44.4	33.5	57	15	2.20	2.48	0.43	20	39.3	29.88
Total/ Average for the year	57.1	42.0			25.15	26.69		164	1543.9	29.95
Total/Average for the year				1960	35.95	26.73		212	1481.2	
				1961	24.66	26.69		165	1686.0	
				1962	21.75	26.69		157	1583.4	
				1963	26.05	26.69		179	1426.7	

Wettest Periods: The longest wet periods were from 15th to 23rd April and from 7th to 15th December.

Driest Period: The longest dry period was from 21st July to 7th August, and the sunniest day of the year was on 1st July when 13.6 hours were recorded.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

All premises where food is sold, stored or handled continued to receive regular routine inspection to ensure that the standards required by the Food Hygiene Regulations are complied with. A total of 2,008 visits were made, excluding visits to slaughterhouses for the purpose of meat inspection. This figure is over 500 more than last year, due to greater emphasis being placed on food control following the Aberdeen typhoid epidemic. The general trend for shops to be improved and modernised continued during the year. Several converted to self-service stores and there was an increase in the number of deep freeze cabinets and refrigerated counters. There is a tendancy, particularly among persons coming into the grocery trade for the first time, to think that refrigeration is the complete answer to food storage and that no further precautions are necessary. This is not so. In addition to regular visits by the Inspectors who check the temperature of storage cabinets, cards were issued giving advice on the proper handling, stock rotation, and temperatures at which perishable foods should be kept. Only by constant routine visiting can control of these premises be effective.

10 cases of contamination of food were brought to the notice of the Department during the year. Full enquiries were made in each case but in none of the instances were legal proceedings warranted. Steps were taken in an endeavour to preclude any further recurrence.

Following the outbreak of typhoid fever in Aberdeen, all shops in the district were visited, the suspected brands of corned beef withdrawn from sale and returned to the suppliers.

The following table sets out the number of food premises in the district regularly inspected by the District Public Health Inspectors -

Cafes and Works Canteens	...	55
Bakehouses	...	6
Butchers Shops	...	30
Fishmongers Shops	...	11
Grocers and General Shops	...	184
Greengrocers	...	25
Licensed Premises	...	121
		432

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

The 2 slaughterhouses in the district carried out regular slaughtering of animals for their own use only during the year with a consequent reduction in the number of animals killed compared with previous years. By the year's end, building work had not commenced on the proposed new slaughterhouse at Snodland, difficulties having arisen over the acquisition of the land.

With the reduction in the amount of slaughtering and the co-operation of the butchers concerned, 100% meat inspection was carried out without the necessity to work overtime. Meat inspection charges were maintained at the figures set in 1964 and the total income for the year was £23. 11s. 0d.

The following table shows the number of animals slaughtered and the amount of meat condemned during 1964.

	Cattle ex Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total
Number killed) Number inspected)	61	-	3	232	267	563
All diseases except tuberculosis						
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	7	-	-	7	4	18
Percentage of No. inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	11.47%	-	-	3.02%	1.49%	3.19%
Tuberculosis Only						
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	3	3
Percentage of No. inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	1.12%	0.57%

Approximate weight condemned 1 cwt. 1 qtr. 0 lbs.

MILK SUPPLIES

Liaison between this Authority and the County Council continued during the year and premises from which milk is sold have received routine inspection. There are 72 distributors and 9 dairies registered in the district.

Voluntary Surrender of Food Stuffs

The following quantity of foods was surrendered as unfit for human consumption :-

Article	Weight Tons.	Cwts.	Qtrs.	Lbs.	Ozs.
Tinned and Dried Fruit	3	4	3	1	1
Tinned Vegetables	-	7	3	8	3
Tinned Meat	-	10	3	21	2
Fresh Meat	-	2	1	2	0*
Bacon	-	11	1	3	2
Tinned Milk	-	-	2	17	10
Tinned Soup	-	3	2	16	0
Tinned and Fresh Fish	-	-	3	4	5
Fats	-	-	2	14	0
Cereals	-	-	2	16	10
Baby Foods	-	-	-	5	4
Frozen Foods	-	1	3	11	0
Preserves	-	-	-	13	0
TOTAL	5	5	1	21	5

* Including meat surrendered at the private slaughterhouses during meat inspection.

In addition 8 gallons of ice cream were condemned. The unfit fresh meat at the slaughterhouses continued to be stained prior to collection by a glue and fertiliser factory for processing.

The policy of disposing of all other unfit foods at the Council's controlled tip under strict supervision was maintained during the year.

Sampling of Food and Drugs.

Mr. C.A. Fox the Chief Inspector of the Weights and Measures Department of the Kent County Council has supplied the following details of samples taken by the County Sampling Officers during the year ended 31st December, 1964.

Article	No.	Article	No.
Actron	1	B/Fd.	40
Ale	1	Lard	1
Antiseptic Healing Cream	1	Macedoine	1
Apple Jelly	1	Malt Vinegar	1
Asparagus Soup	1	Margarine	1
Asthma Inhalant	1	Marzipan	1
Bacon	1	Milk	43
Biscuits	3	Milk Chocolate with Cognac Filling	1
Bread	1	Milk Powder	1
Butter	1	Onion Salt	1
Butterscotch	1	Orange	1
Camyna Lotion	1	Orange Drink	2
Candied Peel	1	Pineapple Squash	1
Casserole Steak	1	Pork Sausages	4
Champagne Perry and Gin	1	Quick Gel	1
Cheese	2	Raspberry Pie Filling	1
Cold Tablets (4 Way)	1	Sausage Rolls	1
Corned Beef	1	Savlon Antiseptic Cream	1
Corn Relish	1	Scone Mix	1
Custard Powder	1	Senna	1
Double Cream	1	Spirit of Camphor B.P.C.	1
Evaporated Milk	1	Split Peas	1
Flour	1	Steak & Kidney Pie	1
Fruit Salad	3	Stewed Steak	1
Gin	6	Tea	1
Ground Almonds	1	Tincture of Myrrh	1
Ice Cream	1	Travel Sickness Tablets	1
Jaffa Cakes	1	Whisky	2
Jam	1	Worm Syrup	1
Kenya Coffee	1	Zez Tablets	1
c/fd.	40	Total	116

Summary:-

Milks ...	43
Drugs ...	12
Spirits ...	8
Other samples..	53
	116

The undermentioned samples were unsatisfactory:-

Sample of	Analysis	Action taken
Macedoine Mixed Vegetable	Ingredients out of order.	Manufacturers informed.
Pork Sausages	Meat content 51% including 19% fat. Below reasonable standard of 65%.	Butcher agreed to increase meat content.
Asthma Inhalant	Adrenaline 0.94%. Formula states 0.50% w/v.	Manufacturers informed.

Sample of	Analysis	Action taken
Stewed Steak	Meat 68% including 3% fat. Proposed canned meat Regulations suggest at least 80% meat for this product.	Manufacturers agreed to increase meat content.
Spirit of Camphor B.P.C.	Article no longer B.P.C. Last appeared in 1959 issue.	Manufacturers informed.
Casserole Steak	Meat 63% including 8% fat. Food Standards Committee's report on canned meat calls for at least 75% meat in this class of product.	Manufacturers informed.

ICE CREAM

During 1964, the number of premises in the district registered for the Storage and Sale of Ice Cream rose to 200. In each case, supplies are received prepacked from well known manufacturers. With the very limited sources of supply, and the fact that sampling of the same manufacturers is carried out all over the country, selective sampling to avoid unnecessary duplication was carried out. Details of these samples together with details for the previous four years are as follows :-

	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964
Premises registered for storage and sale.	139	151	170	196	200
Sample Results					
Grade 1.	14	13	12	4	14
2.	3	3	-	1	9
3.	1	5	-	1	2
4.	-	-	-	-	-
Total Samples	18	21	12	6	25

The position with regard to the handling and sale is generally satisfactory and a total of 295 visits of inspection were made to ice cream dealers during the year under review.

PEST CONTROL

This service remained much the same as in previous years although considerable difficulty was experienced due to the prolonged illness of the Rodent Operator, Mr. H. Jenner. When he eventually returned to work after a period of some 31 weeks he asked to be transferred to other duties and it was necessary to appoint a new Operator, Mr. H.C. Broad, who commenced work in the department on the 7th September. Methods of treatment were similar to those employed in 1963 there being few developments in this field.

The system of contracts was maintained and continued to work in a highly satisfactory manner. There were 26 contracts in force at the year's end bringing in a total of approximately £724. 0s. 0d. towards the cost of service. Regular visits are made to these premises and the continuity of the work does much to keep infestation to an absolute minimum.

The public continue to make good use of the service in connection with private houses and I know the assistance of the Rodent Operator is greatly appreciated. Routine survey work suffered considerably due to the staff situation as did also the testing and treatment of sewers. Plans for the latter had to be abandoned when the Operator became ill but I am pleased to say that new plans were being made at the year's end for this very necessary work to be continued in 1965.

The following table gives numerical details of the work carried out during 1964 :-

	Local Authority	Dwelling houses	Agricultural	All other (inc. Business Premises)	Total
Total number of properties in Local Authority's area	23	14,793	447	1,374	16,637
Number of Properties inspected as result of notification	-	278	9	42	329
Number of Properties inspected as a result of survey or otherwise *	23	11	29	4	67
Number of Properties inspected which were found to be infested by	Rats 5	11	2	2	20
	Mice 1	-	2	2	5
Number of infested properties treated by Local Authority (Completed treatments only)	6	289	11	46	352
Total treatments carried out including re-treatments	20	372	30	99	521
Number of "Block Control" treatments carried out	76 involving 212 properties				

* Specific rodent control visits. Not including those visits where the primary reason was other than rodent control.

In addition to rats and mice the following work was carried out in connection with other types of pests:-

Ants	58:	Bees	3:	Beetles	3:
Cockroaches	61:	Crickets	4:	Fleas	4:
Silver Fish	1:	Wasps	33:	Flies	1:
Bugs	6:				

It will be seen that a comparatively small number of wasps nests were dealt with during 1964. These insects have a tendancy to fluctuate from year to year and the number of nests in the 1964 season was fairly low probably due to the weather conditions in the early part of the year.

This work also is greatly appreciated by householders and does a lot to overcome small infestations which members of the public would sometimes find difficulty in dealing with themselves. A number of the Contract premises are also covered for cockroaches.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The following is the report on the operation and working of the Public Cleansing Services during the year 1964.

Manpower

The establishment of the Public Cleansing Service is -

1 General Foreman
1 Chargehand Fitter
1 Fitter
1 Apprentice Fitter
1 Tractor driver on refuse tip
16 Men on cesspool emptying
36 Men on refuse collection
2 Women employed on salvage sorting and baling (One left on 16.10.64. and has not been replaced)

Of the total establishment of 59 no fewer than 32 men left during the year and 30 new men were engaged. This constant change of manpower makes the work of maintaining an efficient public cleansing service most difficult, and if I did not have a nucleus of long service men things would prove impossible at times. To these latter men great credit is due. To keep this service fully staffed I consider it will be necessary to consider the implementation of an incentive bonus scheme when the paper sack system has been extended to embrace the whole district. Even this will not be easy to initiate as I consider the men work hard at present.

During the year no less than 1,337 days work were lost, viz: 1,071½ days through sickness, 85 days with permission given for personal reasons and 180½ days were taken without permission. At the expense of being trite I must again say that the stoppage of pay to those men taking time off without permission is no deterrent and it is a hard job to get labour of any kind; so dismissal is out of the question. In addition 562 days were taken up in holidays.

It is with the greatest regret that I record the death of our long serving foreman Mr. H. Cradduck during the year. He rendered faithful service to the Council and was a master at manipulating the dwindling labour at his command. Fortunately the promotion of his deputy Mr. R. Andrews to full foreman has resulted in a maintenance of the same high standard and his careful planning of the crews does alleviate the position when men fail to turn up.

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

All parishes within the rural district received a weekly refuse collection service during the year. In addition a further 921 new houses were taken into the service. This is the equivalent of another large village and has been achieved without an increase in vehicle strength although I should point out that on paper at least there were 5 additional men on the establishment.

The new paper sack method of refuse collection was initiated during the last quarter of the year. The trial scheme embraced some 1,200 houses and at the year's end no major snags had been encountered. The system is welcomed by the workmen and public alike. Because of the unqualified success of the trial scheme agreement was reached at the year's end to provide a further 7,000 houses with the system during 1965 and the remaining 7,000 houses in the district during 1966. One private developer of fairly large housing estates in the district was prevailed upon to include wall fixed sack holders in his development thereby saving the Council the cost of providing the approved type of concrete free standing sack stands and holders.

Although all refuse was tipped at the Council's tip at Birling Marshes under strictly controlled conditions, because the tip is fast becoming full, efforts were made to find a new tip. Throughout the year these efforts continued but without success. One suitable tip was found but alas it was within a water gathering ground and as approximately ⅔rds of the whole rural district is within one Water Company's gathering ground or another, the difficulty of finding a suitable tip will be readily appreciated. At the year's end because of the difficulties encountered, plans were being made to over-tip on the present tip.

15,908 tons of refuse were collected and disposed of during the year, the vehicles covering 84,726 miles. In addition 1,031 tons of covering material were carried. A Track Marshall fully tracked tractor is used at the refuse tip and carries out the work of levelling and consolidation in a very efficient manner.

The litter bin service was further extended during the year and now the whole rural district is covered. All requests for further bins are investigated and bins supplied where necessary.

The following table sets out the amount of refuse and other materials conveyed by your vehicles during the past five years:-

Year	Refuse Tons	Hardcore & Covering Tons	C.E. Tip Rd. Maintenance Tons	Salvage Tons	Mics. Tons	Total Tons
1959	12066	1571	245	179	155	14216
1960	13211	2333	209	250	76	16079
1961	16778	2431	233	283	54	19779
1962	17384	1512	211	249	52	19408
1963	15423	1416	33	285	9	17166
1964	15908	1031	-	-	13	16952

Salvage

The following table sets out the position with regard to expenditure and income over the past 5 years:-

Year	Wastepaper, etc.						Metal, Tins, Rags etc.						Miscellaneous				Total					
	Weight			Value			Weight			Value				Value			Weight			Value		
	T.	C.	Q.	£.	s.	d.	T.	C.	Q.	£.	s.	d.		£.	s.	d.	T.	C.	Q.	£.	s.	d.
1960	320.	8.	1.	2,598.	6.	1.	18.	16.	1.	234.	3.	3.	Tyres		-		339.	4.	2.	2,832.	9.	4.
1961	414.	1.	0.	3,515.	5.	1.	23.	8.	1.	220.	12.	11.	1 Ton	4.	0.	0.	438.	9.	1.	3,739.	18.	0.
1962	393.	9.	1.	3,244.	1.	0½	25.	3.	0.	185.	0.	2.	-		-		418.	12.	1.	3,429.	1.	2½
1963	339.	5.	3.	2,785.	10.	2.	16.	2.	3.	181.	15.	0.	-		-		355.	8.	2.	2,968.	5.	2.
1964	381.	3.	2.	3,130.	11.	7¾	25.	7.	2.	186.	15.	3.	-		-		406.	11.	0.	3,317.	6.	11.

It will be seen from the above table that there was an increase in the tonnage of waste paper, scrap metal, etc., collected and sold during the year. I am pleased to say that this position was largely brought about by the removal of restrictions placed on deliveries by Thames Board Mills Ltd. The Company also began to increase publicity in many directions and urged local authorities to do all in their power to increase all supplies of salvageable materials. Salvage continued to consist mainly of waste paper, including newsprint and fibre board, metal both ferrous and non-ferrous and rags. Prices paid by the Board Mills for fibrous materials were also increased towards the end of the year.

The total expenditure on salvage amounted to £2,586. 7s. 2d. and receipts to £3,317. 6s. 11d. giving an excess of income over expenditure of £730. 19s. 9d.

50% salvage bonus continued to be paid to the men and once again I must stress that this has proved invaluable in endeavouring to maintain sufficient staff to keep the Public Cleansing services running. Without this bonus I am sure that the present position would be very much worse.

The two power baling presses continued to be used for the greater part of the year but one of the women employed on this work left in October and it was then necessary for the Refuse Collectors to work a certain amount of overtime on baling work to keep up with the flow of paper into the Depot.

ABANDONED VEHICLES

Another aspect of the work of the Department that has increased very considerably during 1964 is that of dealing with the many derelict vehicles which are abandoned in the rural district. Approximately 30 such vehicles were dealt with during the year.

These vehicles are usually in very poor condition, frequently with all heavy metal parts removed, leaving only the body shell, which is virtually unsaleable without a great deal of time being spent on cutting up. The registration plates are usually removed and it is seldom possible to trace the last registered owner. Where means of identification are available every endeavour is made to trace the owner and recover as much as possible of the costs involved.

Where possible, arrangements are made with the scrap metal dealer who takes the other scrap metal from the depot, to deal with the vehicles free of charge and remove the remains, but in cases where this is not possible the vehicles are cut up by your fitters and the metal salvaged in the usual way. In such cases the cost involved is frequently far in excess of the scrap value.

This is a growing problem and one which I feel will continue to grow until some wider powers are available to deal with the matter on a regional or area basis, possibly by the provision of some form of centralised disposal plant serving a number of authorities, or, taking this district alone, by the provision of an area of land to which owners can bring their old vehicles for disposal. This would obviate their being dumped on the roadside or waste land and having to be brought to the depot as a charge upon the rates.

Cesspool Emptying

A total of 2,870 cesspools were emptied regularly during the year, an increase of 120 over the previous year. This figure of 120 was computed over a 9 month period and comprised 71 cesspools serving existing houses which were emptied for the first time and 49 cesspools serving new houses. The total gallonage of sewage removed and disposed of amounted to no less than 15,695,900 i.e., approximately 60,000 gallons per day and the disposal of this quantity of septic sewage presents problems. The progressive policy of the Council in proposing to provide the trunk valley sewer and then by giving main drainage facilities to a number of villages at present on cesspools, is to be welcomed and is the only real answer to the manifold problems and high costs associated with cesspool emptying.

The Council's fleet of emptying machines remained at 8 workers with one standby. Because of labour difficulties, when working a normal week, the average number of vehicles actually in use was 7.7 but by working overtime this figure was raised to 9.4 machines on average per week throughout the year. Coping with the 6 weekly service now afforded meant that at certain periods of the year a certain amount of delay in attending to emptying requests was inevitable. Nevertheless it was possible to satisfy all concerned.

10,171 pails were emptied during the year, a total of 51 loads as compared with 63 loads last year. The number of pail closets still left in the area is, I am pleased to report, falling as sewers become available. The full effect of the East Peckham Scheme is still to be felt and no doubt the figures quoted will fall again during 1965.

The following table sets out details of the cesspool emptying position over the past 5 years:-

LOADS REMOVED			
Year	Cesspools	Pails	Total
1960	14,796	117 (17,533 pails)	14,913
1961	16,595	100 (16,965 pails)	16,695
1962	17,812	85 (16,971 pails)	17,897
1963	18,480	63 (12,518 pails)	18,543
1964	19,620	51 (10,171 pails)	19,671

Garages, Vehicles and Maintenance

With the exception of the tip tractor which is garaged at the refuse tip, all the public cleansing vehicles are housed at the East Malling Depot. These are as follows:-

10 refuse collection vehicles including one spare
9 cesspool emptying machines " " "
1 - 2 ton truck
2 - Vans (One for General Foreman and one Rodent Control)
1 Track Marshall Tractor

During the year delivery was taken of a new 35 cubic yard Pakamatic refuse collector replacing a Paxit refuse collector and a new 1,000 gallon cesspool emptier in place of an old 800 gallon machine.

All the foregoing machines together with 3 under the control of the Engineer and Surveyor are maintained at your East Malling Depot. One charge hand fitter, one assistant fitter and one apprentice are employed and they do an excellent job of work in keeping the machines in daily operation. In addition to the maintenance of your vehicles the fitters carry out work as required at sewage works and pumping stations, maintenance of mowers and grass cutters, repair and painting of litter bins etc.

The policy of remoulding tyres continued during the year and great savings were made under this heading.

FACTORIES

The following tables show the number of inspections of factories carried out and the details of defects found:-

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Notices	Owners Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3, 4 & 6 are enforced by Local Authorities	2	2	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	166	180	6	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	6	5	-	-
TOTAL	174	187	6	-

2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of cleanliness(s.1)	1	-	1	-	-
Overcrowding(s.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (s.3)	1	-	1	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (s.4)	1	-	1	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (s.6)	1	-	1	-	-
Sanitary conveniences(s.7) (a) insufficient	1	1	-	-	-
(b) unsuitable or defective	3	3	-	-	-
(c) not separate for sexes	-	1	-	-	-
Other offences not including offences relating to Home Work	2	3	-	-	-
TOTALS	10	8	4	-	-

OUTWORK
(Sections 133 & 134)

Nature of Work (1)	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133 (1)(C) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecu-tions (7)
Wearing apparel) Making) etc. and washing	2	-	-	-	-	-
Curtains and furniture hangings	2	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	4	-	-	-	-	-

CLEAN AIR

During the year under review, 100 visits were made under this heading. Although regular routine smoke observations of chimneys had to be discontinued due to pressure of work, unrecorded observations were maintained and immediate visits paid to any plant found to be contravening the Act.

Plans of commercial furnaces were approved under the Act in 4 instances ranging in scale from a heating plant for a workshop to a large furnace installation at a paper mill.

Complaints were received of a dust nuisance from a quarry at Basted. The matter was taken up with the management concerned and certain works were carried out. These did not, however have the desired effect, and at the year's end further dust arresting equipment was being considered.

Complaints of nuisance from dust arising from the quarrying of ragstone and production of tar macadam at Aylesford were investigated during the year and resulted in the plant being fitted with dust arresting equipment.

SHOPS ADMINISTRATION

The administration of the Shops Act continued to be dealt with whilst visiting shops for other duties and a total of 460 visits was made during the year under review. Shop keepers are reminded from time to time of the legal requirements relating to the sale of goods on the half day and Sundays and the policy of leaving a brochure explaining the principal provisions of the Act upon a change of occupancy was continued. The majority of shops close well before the permitted hours and it was not found necessary to take any legal proceedings.

The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963 which came into force on 1st May, 1964 makes provision for the first time for securing the health, safety and welfare of persons working in office or shop premises and in certain railway premises and also amends certain provisions of the Factories Act, 1961.

This Act entailed a considerable amount of additional work in the Department, both technical and administrative and entailed duties new to local government, such as the investigation of accidents and guarding of machinery. Many visits were made to premises to ascertain whether or not they were required to be registered and whether such registration should be by the Council or H.M. Inspector of Factories. To assist employers, leaflets giving the main provisions of the Act and details of first aid equipment were issued.

In order to save the time of the qualified Inspectors, the Technical Assistant was employed in carrying out routine factual inspections. His reports are examined by the District Inspectors and revisits made to discuss any contraventions of the Act with the employers concerned.

At the 31st December, 252 premises employing a total of 1,981 persons had been registered, 75 registered premises had received a full inspection and a total of 665 other visits made in connection with the Act.

SWIMMING POOLS

The two privately owned swimming pools in the district were again open to the public during the year. The open air pool in the parish of Addington being open during the summer months only and the covered pool in the Blue Bell Hill area continued to be open all the year round. Both pools were sampled at frequent intervals to ensure that the purity of the water was being maintained.

During the summer, a school in the Aylesford parish opened a private swimming pool for the use of the pupils. This also had regular samples taken. At the year's end a total of 149 samples had been taken, 147 proving satisfactory, the unsatisfactory samples being taken at the deep and shallow ends of the pool at the same time and were due to a breakdown of the treatment plant. Following repairs to the plant further samples proved satisfactory.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no registered Common Lodging Houses in the district.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

6 applications for site licences under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960 were approved during the year bringing the total of licensed sites to 25 and the total Caravans to 86. Of these, 2 sites, comprising 11 Caravans are licensed for seasonal use only. A total of 254 visits were made under this heading during the year.

Constant vigilance throughout the whole of the district has to be maintained to prevent a build up of unauthorised gypsy Caravans on road side verges and certain waste land sites.

With the seasonal employment of casual labour on farms in the district, gypsies and other itinerant Caravan dwellers are attracted to the area and problems are created during the time they are waiting to move onto a particular farm and when the seasonal work ends.

Following planning refusal by the Minister to the Council's scheme to provide a site for gypsy caravans at Wateringbury, the whole district was surveyed and at the year's end another scheme to provide a site in the West Malling area was being prepared.

NOISE

3 complaints of noise nuisances were received during the year.

One complaint referred to noise from a dance band using amplifiers to play beat music in a small Village Hall.

This type of complaint is very difficult to deal with in the absence of any legal standard and is largely a matter of personal evaluation. What may well be a source of annoyance to one person is not to another. Nevertheless this complaint was fully investigated with a view to a reduction in the level of noise emitted and at the year's end a certain measure of success had been achieved.

PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT

All premises in which Stage or Cinematograph shows are given and to which the public are admitted are licensed annually and the legal requirements strictly enforced.

During 1964, 8 licences for stage shows and 3 for cinema shows were granted.

PETROLEUM

All premises on which petroleum spirit or inflammable petrol - based mixtures are stored are licensed annually and the recommendations of the Home Office strictly enforced. During the year, testing of petrol storage tanks which had been in use for 20 years or more was commenced.

Licences were issued to 5 large depots, 34 service stations and 113 other premises. In addition to the inspections carried out by the Fire Prevention Officer of the Kent County Fire Brigade on behalf of the Council, 232 visits were made by the Public Health Inspectors under this heading.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS

During the year 11,971 inspections were carried out in connection with work of the department, comprised as follows:-

Food Premises

Number	of	visits	to	Sweets & Tabacco	...	88
"	"	"	"	Bakehouses	...	39
"	"	"	"	Butchers shops	...	105
"	"	"	"	Grocers shops	...	255
"	"	"	"	Greengrocers	...	112
"	"	"	"	General	...	190
"	"	"	"	Confectioners	...	33
"	"	"	"	Fishmongers shops	...	39
"	"	"	"	Cafes	...	255
"	"	"	"	Works Canteens	...	100
"	"	"	"	Public Houses	...	103
"	"	"	"	Slaughterhouses	...	21
"	"	"	"	Meat Inspection	...	117
"	"	"	"	Piggeries	...	10
"	"	"	"	Milk Supplies	...	35
"	"	"	"	Ice Cream and Ham (Sec.16)	...	295
"	"	"	"	Food Condemnation	...	215
"	"	"	"	Food Factories	...	78
"	"	"	"	Slaughtermen's Licences	...	2
"	"	"	"	Dairies	...	13
"	"	"	"	Mobile Food shops	...	20

Environmental Hygiene and Miscellaneous

Number	of	visits	to	Factories & Workplaces	...	192
"	"	"	"	Outworkers	...	12
"	"	"	"	Aged Persons	...	10
"	"	"	"	Dirty Premises	...	4
"	"	"	"	Premises re rat and/or mice infestation (inc. 2,650 by Rodent Operator)	...	2762
"	"	"	"	Premises re pest and/or vermin (other than rats or mice)	...	244
"	"	"	"	Premises re notifiable and infectious diseases	...	470
"	"			Inspection re refuse accumulation and/or manure heaps	...	62
"	"			Visits carried out under Housing and/or Public Health Acts	...	1452
"	"			Housing Inspection in connection with rehousing	...	33
"	"			Visits re sewerage and sewage disposal	...	14
"	"			Visits cesspools septic tanks, drains	...	331
"	"			Visits rivers, streams, ditches, etc.	...	28
"	"	"	"	Swimming Pools	...	103
"	"	"		re Drinking Water	...	94
"	"	"	"	Public Assembly	...	5
"	"	"	"	Hop Pickers Camps	...	28
"	"	"	"	Moveable Dwellings	...	254
"	"	"		re Petroleum	...	232
"	"	"		Flooding	...	7
"	"	"		Land Charges	...	18

Number	of	visits	to	Keeping of Animals	...	33
"	"	"		Rent Acts	...	4
"	"	"		Refuse Disposal	...	251
"	"	"		Miscellaneous	...	450
"	"	"		Smoke	...	100
"	"	"		Shops Acts	...	460
"	"	"	"	Waste Food Boiling Plants	...	4
"	"	"	"	Agricultural (S.H. & W.P.) Act, 1956	...	8
"	"	"	"	Refuse Collection	...	837
"	"	"	"	Public Conveniences	...	121
"	"	"	"	Noise nuisances	...	14
"	"	"	"	Cesspool emptying	...	430
"	"	"	"	Holly Hill	...	4
"	"	"	"	Riding Establishments	...	3
"	"	"	re	Abandoned Vehicles	...	74
"	"	"	to	Quarries	...	31
"	"	"	re	Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act.	...	664
"	"	"	"	National Assistance Burials	...	3

In conclusion, I would like to record my thanks and appreciation to the Council for their continuous support and interest during the year, and to the staff for their loyal co-operation at all times.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. C. COLDRICK.

Chief Public Health Inspector.

Parish	Number of houses according to Valuation List as at 31.12.64.	Area (Acres)	Population (estimated)
Addington	220	1,119	626
Aylesford	2,031	4,013	6,046
Birling	457	1,801	1,315
Borough Green	1,097	480	3,269
Burham	612	1,632	1,725
Ditton	1,048	1,066	3,070
Ightham	605	2,278	1,802
Leybourne	189	755	2,074
East Malling & Larkfield	1,956	2,787	5,641
West Malling	890	1,379	2,444
Mereworth	241	2,556	901
Offham	262	1,479	796
East Peckham	802	3,337	2,240
West Peckham	108	1,582	333
Platt	459	1,827	1,323
Plaxtol	350	2,406	966
Ryarsh	250	1,375	748
Shipbourne	161	2,007	511
Snodland	1,596	1,958	4,608
Stansted	168	1,974	527
Trottiscliffe	173	1,155	497
Wateringbury	372	1,377	1,085
Wouldham	262	1,855	819
Wrotham	484	3,457	1,464
TOTALS	14,793	45,655	44,830

Summary

Area of district (in acres)	..	45,655
Registrar General's estimate of Mid Year Home Population	..	44,830
Average density of persons per acre	..	0.981
No. of inhabited dwellings (31.12.64) according to Valuation List	..	14,793
1 per		3.082 acres
Average density of dwellings	..	3.030
Rateable Value (as at 31.12.64)	£	2069,694
Sum represented by a penny rate (1964-65) (estimated)	£	8,616

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